

public cooperation that would bridge the gaps in the state's innovation pipeline. It has received significant funding from the Idaho State Legislature since its birth in 2007. In addition, the Idaho National Laboratory has provided funds to assist in its efforts.

The hi-tech industry is an important industry to the United States and to Idaho and the government plays an important role in helping to foster and encourage new innovations and ideas. The Idaho TechConnect Proof of Concept Center assists people and organizations with novel innovations from early stage projects to the launch of a viable start-up business or to license the product or service to an existing business. Over the last 3 years Idaho TechConnect has worked with more than 1,000 companies and individuals as well as all of Idaho's universities and colleges and the Idaho National Lab to get more ideas out of the research and development funding. It has been very successful at discovering ideas and assessing their potential. These funds will assist its efforts to turn promising ideas into products and services and assist businesses in efforts to mature these innovations into market-ready products and services.

The Center will provide assistance with business models, intellectual property strategy, and access to capital, resulting in more ideas becoming products. Innovation is key to creating new jobs and fostering new businesses and growing current ones. This funding will assist businesses and public entities in their efforts to mature their innovative ideas into market-ready products and services. During these difficult economic times, the federal government should seek every means possible to foster real economic growth and make our economy stronger in the short term but particularly in the long-term.

IN HONOR OF FRANK PINNEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the public service career of Mr. Frank Pinney on the occasion of his retirement as Chief of the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade after thirty-five years, seventeen as Chief. I have known Frank for a long time and have called him many things over the years: chief; mayor, community volunteer, community leader, mentor, neighbor, trusted advisor, public safety expert, friend, and above all, public servant. It is in this last capacity that I speak today about the great difference that Frank has made to the community that he has called home for nearly forty years.

Frank Pinney arrived in Big Sur in the early 1970s. At that time Big Sur residents relied upon Monterey based crews for fire protection along 70 miles of remote rugged coastline. It could take an hour or more for those trained firefighters to arrive at a house fire or other emergency. Soon after he arrived in Big Sur, Frank joined a community based effort to organize its own volunteer fire protection service. And so in August 1974, the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade was born with Frank Pinney among its first members.

Frank soon displayed an unsurpassed commitment to the Fire Brigade's public safety

mission. In 1975, he became the Brigade's training officer and in 1978 won election as the Brigade foreman. Other milestones included engine company captain, 1982 Outstanding Firemen of the Year, and Assistant Chief for Administration in 1985. He also assisted the Brigades development by spearheading the effort to secure its 501(c)(3) non-profit status in 1983 and managing the capital fund and actual construction of the Brigade's firehouse in 1991. All of this work and devotion culminated in 1992 with Frank's election as Brigade Chief, a role in which he became synonymous with the Brigade itself.

Over the course of his career with the Brigade, Frank was at the heart of efforts to protect the local community and the millions of annual visitors to Big Sur from common car accidents to major wildfires. This included service during the 1977 Marble Cone fire, 1983 El Niño land slides, and the 1985 Rat Creek fire. As Chief he helped lead the response as a member of the incident command to the 1996 Sur fire, the 1998 winter land slides, and the 1999 Kirk fire.

Frank surpassed all this work with his efforts during last year's monumental Basin Complex fire. The Basin Complex fire, and the adjacent Indians fire, burned over 240,000 acres of Big Sur coastland and back country and over 25 homes. This event became one of the largest wildfires in California history and nearly destroyed the heart of the Big Sur community. Frank participated in the Basin Complex incident command and played a critical role in bringing his local knowledge and experience to the Forest Service and Cal Fire leadership running the massive fire fighting effort.

"Public service," "community organizing," and "volunteerism" are all frequently heard in conversations today. But these words alone fail to do justice to Frank for he has been the very embodiment of these ideals—all the more so in light of the purely voluntary nature of his Fire Brigade work.

Madam Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in both commending Frank Pinney for his dedication to the public good and in holding out his public service record as an example for the whole nation.

HONORING MR. ERNEST K. BUCK
OF PALL MALL, TENNESSEE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and remember the life of Mr. Ernest Buck of Pall Mall, Tennessee. Ernest lived a long, full life in service to his country and community, and served as a model citizen for his neighbors, family and friends.

Ernest began his career as a student at Lincoln Memorial University, before transferring to Middle Tennessee State University and later to Tennessee Polytechnic Institute, where he graduated in 1936. For 42 years, Ernest dedicated himself to teaching young men and women of Tennessee at the York Agricultural Institute in Fentress County. This alone might endear him to his community, but Ernest went to incredible lengths, even beyond his work as a teacher, to serve those around him at every turn.

During the Second World War, Ernest traveled to Ypsilanti, Michigan, to serve his country making B-24 bombers and later to Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to continue the war effort. After the war, Ernest returned home to carry out his service as a member of the Greers Chapel Church, the Young Farmers and Homemakers, the York Institute Advisory Council, and the Union Bank Board of Directors. Ernest was also a Director of the Fentress Farmers Co-Op, and served with the Fentress County Retired Teachers Association and the Fentress County Historical Association.

I hold a special place for Mr. Buck, because when my mother was young, he was her teacher at York Agricultural Institute. He was my teacher as well, and a good friend, and I am better today for having known and learned from him at an early age. Tennessee was blessed to enjoy Ernest Buck's grace and service for ninety-six years, and while his presence is missed he will no doubt live on in the countless lives he touched.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on congressionally directed finding, I am submitting the following information regarding funding included in H.R. 3170—Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3170

Account: Financial Services, SBA

Legal Name of Recipient: SEKTDA

Address of Recipient: 2292 South Highway 27, Somersett, KY 42501

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$685,000 for economic and small business development in southern and eastern Kentucky. SEKTDA is a non-profit, region-wide initiative created to attract travelers and tour industry businesses to the area. SEKTDA's 47 county region is in one of the most depressed areas in the United States and economic and small business development is essential. These funds will contribute to the economic growth of the region.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure and certification information for three project funding requests that I made and were included within the text of H.R. 3183—The FY 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations Act.

Project 1

Project: Arkansas River Corridor Project

Project Amount: \$100,000

Account: Corp of Engineers Investigations